

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] The programmable descramble and decode module 72 receives the output of multiplexer 84 and, based on setting 62, either passes the data via multiplexer 90, descrambles it via the 64b/66b descrambler 88, or decodes it via the 8b/10b decode module 86. The 64b/66b descrambling module 88 will be described in greater detail with reference to Figure 8. The 8b/10b decoding module 186 may be further described in co-pending U.S. [[p]]Patent [[a]]Application Serial No. 10/660,191 filed September 11, 2003, by Kryzak and Boecker entitled TBD, having an attorney docket number of X-1354 and having the same filing date as the present application"Enhanced 8B/10B Encoding/Decoding and Applications Thereof."

Please replace paragraph [0038] with the following amended paragraph:

[0038] The programmable verify module 110 is operably coupled to receive the transmit data words 46 and either pass them directly to the programmable encoding module 112 or perform a cyclic redundancy check upon them. The transmit PMA_PCS interface setting 60 indicates whether the transmit data words 46 will be directly passed to the programmable encode module 112 or be subject to a cyclic redundancy check. The programmable encoding module 112, based on setting 60, either encodes the data received from the programmable verify module 110 via the 8b/10b encoder 124, the 64b/66b encoder 122 or passes the data directly to the programmable storage module 114. The 64b/66b encoder 122 is described in greater detail with reference to Figures 5 - 7. The 8b/10b encoder 224 is more fully described in co-pending U.S. [[p]]Patent [[a]]Application Serial No. 10/659,971, filed September 11, 2003, by Boecker, Black and Groen, entitled TBD, having an attorney docket number of X-1358 and same filing date as the present application"Receiver Termination Network and Application Thereof."